Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-13 /079 W
----------180016Z 039679 /20
R 171317Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4027

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 3091

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ET, PFOR, MASS, US
SUBJECT: VIETNAM MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA

1. MAY 17 ETHIOPIAN HERALD CARRIED TEXT REPLY OF VIETNAMESE PRESIDENT TON DUC THANG TO APRIL 11 MESSAGE FROM PMAC CHAIRMAN MENGISTU. TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS: "PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ALWAYS FOLLOW WITH GREAT CONCERN ABOUT CURRENT SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA. DO STRONGLY CONDEMN IMPERIALIST INTERFERENCE IN ETHIOPIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, ESPECIALLY THAT OF UNITED STATES IMPERIALIST AND IMPERIALIST PAID REACTIONARY FORCES. CONFIRM SUPPORT OF PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO DETERMINED STRUGGLE OF ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE WITH VIEW TO CONSOLIDATING NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND DEFENDING THE REVOLUTIONARY ACHIEVEMENTS REPORTED UNDER LEADERSHIP OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL HEADED BY CHAIRMAN LT. COL. MENGISTU HAILE-MARIAM. ARE CONVINCED ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION WILL OVERCOME ALL HARDSHIPS, OBSTACLES AND ACHIEVE FINAL VICTORY."

2. COMMENT: ARTICLE IS FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT ON ETHIO-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS IN RECENT PAST. EPMG HAS INDICATED STRONG CONTINUING INTEREST IN OBTAINING
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FORMER U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM VIETNAMESE. SECRET VISIT TO VIETNAM BY HIGH LEVEL EPMG DELEGATION END MARCH TO THIS END COMMON KNOWLEDGE BETTER INFORMED DIPLOMATS HERE. TELEGRAM APPEARS QUITE VAGUE ON HOW VIETNAMESE WILL "SUPPORT" EPMG. WE NOTE TELEGRAM CONTAINS USUAL JARGON BEING PEDDLED BY VISITING EPMG DELEGATIONS AND SPECULATE TELEGRAM

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MAY BE MERE INDICATION MORAL SUPPORT FOR EPMG.
VIETNAMESE, OF COURSE, FACE POSSIBILITY COMPLICATING
RELATIONS WITH BOTH PRC AND U.S. IF THEY PROVIDE
MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO EPMG.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2498272
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: VIETNAM MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, ET, US, VN, (TON DUC THANG), (MENGISTU HAILE MARIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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